Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar:—Does the Government follow any definite principle in giving these subscriptions and donations?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—Of course. It is His Highness' prerogative to make such donations.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar:—Is it the practice of Government to earmark a certain amount in the budget every year?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—Yes.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar:—What is the amount paid as subscriptions and donations for the period covered by this answer?

Mr T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—I want notice.

Mr. P. J. Alexander:—Why should the cost of books be included in the subscriptions?

Mr T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—It is the price paid.

Mr. P. J. Alexander:—He delivered the book and the price was paid. That is all.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—The subscription was paid and the books delivered.

Mr. P. J. Alexander:—Rs. 500 is the price of books but Rs. 600 is paid.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—You subscribe when you are a subscriber and donation is a particular amount for a particular fund.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar:—What is done with these books?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:— These books are distributed among the several offices.

97. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar:—Will the Government be pleased to state the names of persons to whom donations and subscriptions were given in the year 1110 with the amount given to each?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar:—Vide answer to Question No. 96.

Electrification of the Trichur and Ernakulam towns.

98. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar:—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether they did anything with the four lakhs of rupees provided in this year's budget for the electrification of the Trichur and Ernakulam towns;

(2) if not, whether they have given up those schemes;

(3) whether they have any other scheme in hand;

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(4) whether then is any truth in the reports that the Government have entered into an agreement with Messrs. Chari and Chari of Madras or any other firm for the supply of electricity;

(5) if the answer to the above is in the affirmative, will they be pleased to give the main terms of the agreement?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:—(1) No.

(2) Government do not intend to work these schemes departmentally.

(3) Government propose to encourage private companies to undertake the work. Honourable Member's attention is drawn to the notification in the Gazette, dated 13th July 1935, corresponding to 29th Mithunam 1110 (Pages 1161—1162 Part I)

(4) No.

(5) No answer is required in view of answer to (4).

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon:— In the light of the promise made by the Hon'ble Member for Engineering would he be pleased to modify the answer given in sub-division (2) ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— I remember yesterday to have said that if private companies are not forthcoming Government would consider the question.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni:— At the time when four lakhs were set apart in the last year's budget for the purpose of electrifying certain places was it the intention of the Government to undertake the work departmentally ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:—Yes.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni:— Will the Hon'ble Member say what exactly are the reasons that have now made the Government to go back upon the position that had been taken up then ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— On further consideration the Government thought that it would be better in their interests to give it to some private enterprises to take up this work.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni:— What are those after-considerations?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— In the first place at that time Government thought that no suitable private company would be forthcoming. Now they wanted to give a chance for the private companies to take up the work. As I told you yesterday if no such private company is forthcoming then Government will consider the question.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon:— With the inauguration of the fourth stage in the harbour works there will be greater demand for power and government will derive a good income which will go to the common revenue and all the people of His Highness' subjects will be benefitted. My I ask would any company be forthcoming

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

unless they would be given a license for some time, say a number of years ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— The Hon'ble Member is going into details and as such no information can be supplied off-hand.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon:— What time will be required for a company to work up the major things ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— In almost all electricity licenses there is always a period of at least five years.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni:— Is it possible under the notification for a person or institution to tender as an applicant for starting this electric work under the notification; is it possible for a group of men ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— According to the original notification dated 11-11-10 that was the understanding. Before applying for the license the party should register a company in the State. But that provision has been altered subsequently. Anybody can tender.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni:— I do not know when that notification was issued ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— In the next Gazette.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—Is there a proposal of getting electricity from Pallivasal ? I hear that their line is shortly to come as near as Alwaye.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— In the first place the Pallivasal scheme will not be ready for the next two years. Government are anxious to supply the towns with electricity as early as possible.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— In how many years ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— According to the present scheme, within one year.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— Has the Government any information of the extension of the line from Pallivasal to Perumpavoor ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— From the reports I have seen and the budget discussions, I find that it will come only within two years.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— My information is that they will bring this line within a year.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan:— May I know how the notification has been received by the public ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— I have no information.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan:— Has the Government seen the proceedings of meetings conducted at Trichur on this question ?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:— No official knowledge is given.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan:— I may say for the information of this House that the Diwan has allowed their prayer to wait and receive a deputation of these members very soon to consider this question. What induced the Government to alter one of the provisions ?

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— Did they not consider the desirability of starting it themselves?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:— They thought so. But realising now that funds will urgently be required for capital works like the harbour, they think that it would be better to leave it to Private hands.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— Is it very difficult to find funds for this work ?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar:— After the discussions and public representations, are they prepared to make any changes in the notification? Are these the last words on the point ?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:— That is a hypothetical question. Government cannot answer that question now.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— During the last meeting of the Standing Finance Committee was not this point stressed namely conducting it under State management and was not that point noted?

Rama Varmha Tampuran:— I do not remember.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni:— Will the Hon'ble member kindly say whether the license that has been granted to the Trichur Electric Corporation has been cancelled ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:—It has not been cancelled.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni:— If not, have the Government to publish a notification like this, when that license is still in force?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:— So far as the Government is aware there is absolutely no such thing.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— How can the Government say that they do not remember the suggestions made some few days ago?

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon:— Will the Government be pleased to arrange by means of a notification that the maximum number of shares which each municipality is prepared to take will be given preferential treatment in the allotment of shares? Say half a lakh for Trichur and Rs. 25,00 for Ernakulam ? Would the Government be pleased to arrange that or that the maximum number of shares asked for by the Municipality would be given?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— One of the conditions is that 50 per cent of the share capital should be given to bona fide subjects of the State.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon:—Will the Government impose a condition that Municipalities will be given some preferential treatment ?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:— That is a point which will be considered by the Government.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— Will the Hon'ble Member for Accounts tell me whether he has before him the printed proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee which was distributed among the members?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan:— Will a general preference be given to Cochinites over and above the 50 per cent mentioned in the notification?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— I cannot say anything now ?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan:— Will the Government be prepared to reconsider that?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:— When necessity arises Government will consider.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni:— Can there be any difficulty for two companies, one at Trichur and the other at Ernakulam? If the work is going to be entrusted to a Cochin Company, could not the capital be lowered from 5 lakhs to 2½ lakhs and instead of one company two companies?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— The Member has not specified the particulars how that would be more satisfactory.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni:— According to the notification will it be possible to collect such a big capital within one year? Is it not easy for Government to raise five lakhs for two thermal stations one at Trichur and the other at Ernakulam?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— The supply of electric current will have to be made at the lowest possible rates. Two separate companies having their own every day charges and electrical supplies and the remuneration for management in two different stations will all contribute to increase the cost of working the electric stations. It is because of that that we wish to entrust the work to one company.

Mr. President:— I am afraid we are going too far into the details.

Dr. E. S. R. Menon—Appointment as Director of Public Health.

99. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar:—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

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